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LETTER DATED 18 JULY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the resolution on the dispute between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France that was adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at its sixty-fourth regular session, held from 1 to 5 July 1996, and endorsed by the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government recently held in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed A. AZWAI
Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: English]

Resolution on the crisis between the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France, as adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixty-fourth regular session, held in Yaoundé from 1 to 5 July 1996

The OAU Ministerial Council convened in its Sixty-Fourth Regular Session in Yaoundé, Cameroon, during the period 1 to 5 July 1996.

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity which calls on member States to settle their differences by peaceful means, and the respect of the independence of all member States and refraining from threatening their territorial integrity and the security of their peoples,

Having discussed, with interest, the report of the Secretary-General on the new developments in the dispute between the Jamahiriya and the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France,

Expressing its appreciation of the positive initiatives submitted by the Jamahiriya to solve the problem and its acceptance of Security Council resolution 731 (1992), under its national sovereignty and the norms of international law,

Expressing its deep concern over the continued escalation of the crisis and the threat to impose sanctions and the use of force against the Jamahiriya, which constitute a violation of the Charters of both the OAU and the United Nations and international conventions,

Taking into consideration the position of the Jamahiriya which condemns terrorism in all its forms and denounces those who resort to it or encourage it, and its readiness to cooperate with every regional or international effort to solve this problem,

Expressing its deep concern over the losses in lives and the material damage suffered by the Libyan Arab people and neighbouring peoples, as a result of the coercive measures applied in pursuance of Security Council resolutions 748 (1992) and 883 (1993),

Recalling the statement issued by the OAU Five-Member Committee in its joint meeting with the Arab League's Seven-Member Committee in Cairo on 11 April 1996, calling for the coordination and unification of Arab and African efforts to reach a solution through dialogue and peaceful means, in conformity with the norms of international law and the respect of the State sovereignty and refraining from anything which might obstruct legal actions,

1. Expresses its deep concern over the losses in lives and the material damaged suffered by the Libyan Arab people as a result of the measures imposed on it under Security Council resolution 748 (1992) and 883 (1993) and states that non-response to moves and efforts made by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the OAU, the League of Arab States, the Non-Aligned Movement, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, has greatly hurt the possibilities of reaching a solution for the crisis and increased the suffering of the Libyan Arab people and the neighbouring countries.

2. In the light of the cooperation existing between the League of Arab States and the OAU in this respect, sees that the proposal of the Arab League to hold a neutral and just trial for the two suspects before Scottish judges, under Scottish law in The Hague, with the necessary guarantees for the suspects, a proposal which has received wide international support, is a proper practical solution to end the crisis, that is why the three western countries are invited to consider that proposal.

3. Calls on the Security Council to lift the sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, specially that continuation of these sanctions would prompt the African countries to consider the possible means of sparing the Libyan people more losses.

4. Supports the Jamahiriya in asking for proper compensation for the human losses and material and financial damage it suffered as a result of the application of the unjust embargo.

5. Pays tribute to the work of the OAU Five-Member Committee entrusted with the dispute and the statement issued by its joint meeting with the Arab League's Seven-Member Committee, and calls on it to continue its efforts to reach a just peaceful settlement of the dispute and report to the Council.

6. Requests the Secretary-General of the OAU to continue his efforts to lift the unjust embargo, and to submit a report of that matter to the next session.